12/7/70

Mr. W. L. Johnson, Jr.
Assistant Administrator for Administration
General Services Administration
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Your letter of December 3, which addresses only one of my two appeals of November 10, is a kind of semantics not new to me. In it you redefine "raw materials" to mean "working papers" only. I do not believe it is necessary for me to send a dictionary with my appeal and, in the many letters I have sent the government on this subject, there is a sufficiently clear identification of that which I seek and believe I am entitled to.

Of this, the working papers are only part.

The panel itself listed some of its raw materials.

However, I do note that after my letter and before your answer, the Attorney General responsible for this panel said among the things it provided is sworn statements. If I have no way of knowing who is truthful, I also have it spelled out clearly that everyone cannot be.

And restricting myself to your redefinition of my request, which is the only way you could have written me as you did, I note two things: how remarkable it is that there could have been so special a panel whose work was so important, yet no scrap of paper about it remain; and the requirement of the law, as set forth in the Attorney General's Memorandum on it, that agencies not in possession of what is sought under it be forwarded to the agency of paramount interest.

In any event, I take it from this and previous letters that I have exhausted all administrative possibilities.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg